



# South Carolina Education Policy Fellowship Program

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **17 South Carolina professional and civic leaders named to prestigious education policy program**

COLUMBIA – Seventeen (17) professional and civic leaders from across South Carolina have been selected to participate in the SC Education Policy Fellowship Program (SC-EPFP) for 2012-13.

SC-EPFP is a 10-month intensive professional development program for established and emerging leaders in education and related fields to help equip them in working toward sound education policy and practice in South Carolina. SC-EPFP Fellows participate in a variety of activities that promote leadership, develop professional networks, demystify education policy, and foster a greater understanding of the roles of government and the community.

The 17 SC-EPFP Fellows for 2012-13 are:

- Cynthia M. Bennett, Director of Business Relations – SC GEAR UP  
SC Chamber of Commerce, Columbia
- Elizabeth S. Boesch, Prevention Program Manager  
Darkness to Light, Charleston
- Antonio B. Boyd, Vice President, Community Service  
HOPE Worldwide Ltd., Irmo
- Don C. Bowen, State Representative  
SC House of Representatives, District 8, Anderson and Oconee Counties
- Dr. Gerald E. Gary, Principal  
Leaphart Elementary School, Lexington/Richland School District 5, Columbia
- Dr. Randall R. Gary, Principal  
Dent Middle School, Richland School District 2, Columbia
- Deitra T. Johnson, Assistant Principal  
Blythewood Academy, Richland School District 2, Blythewood
- Amy E. McAllister, 2013 SC Teacher of the Year  
Center for Educator Recruitment, Retention and Advancement, Winthrop University
- Kelly L. McNally, Assistant Principal  
SC Connections Academy, Columbia
- Dr. Maree E. Price, Executive Board Member  
SC Association for Supervision and Curriculum Development, Columbia

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- Dr. Robert M. Rhinehart, District Registrar  
Richland School District One, Columbia
- Col. Kenneth M. Royalty, Chief of Staff  
US Army Training Center, Fort Jackson
- Antjuan O. Seawright, President/CEO  
Sunrise Communications, Columbia
- Kimberly P. Smoak, Campus Director, SC Teaching Fellows/Clinical Instructor  
University of South Carolina College of Education
- Karen M. Utter, Council Specialist  
SC School Improvement Council, University of South Carolina College of Education
- Helen A. Walker, Teacher  
Doby's Mill Elementary School, Kershaw County School District, Elgin
- L. Kobie Wilkerson III, Chief Consultant  
Love II Learn Education Group, Columbia

“The economic future of South Carolina depends on our commitment and success in educating our children,” said Robert E. Barnett, Associate VP for Workforce, Education and Manufacturing Policy with the SC Chamber of Commerce and SC-EPFP Advisory Board Chair.

“This year’s SC-EPFP Fellows are some of our state’s most talented and dedicated leaders,” Barnett said. “It is exciting to bring these minds together to develop new insights and work collaboratively to impact our state’s future through education improvement and reform.”

Fellows will meet monthly throughout the academic year for full-day dialogues, exercises and group projects, in addition to an overnight in-state Fall Leadership Forum and a four-day Washington Policy Seminar hosted by the Institute for Educational Leadership.

The SC-EPFP operates under the auspices of the national Education Policy Fellowship Program of the Institute for Educational Leadership in Washington, DC, which oversees Fellowship programs in 12 states and the District of Columbia. In South Carolina the program is coordinated by the SC School Improvement Council, located in the University of South Carolina College of Education, with the assistance of the SC Department of Education’s Office of Leader Effectiveness.

SC-EPFP is supported by an advisory board providing cross-disciplinary leadership representing the state’s K-12 education, higher education and business communities.

For additional information on the SC Education Policy Fellowship Program, visit the SC-EPFP page online at <http://sic.sc.gov/sceducationpolicyfellowshipprogram/Pages/index.aspx>.